

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for synchronizing audio data to text data from a source, the method comprising:

segregating a source text data of a given format into a plurality of text sections;

delimiting each of the segregated text sections with a user interactive
synchronization point;

providing a user interactive mark button associated with each segregated text

section;

displaying at least one of the text sections, the delimiting synchronization point,

and the associated mark button on a display;

associating the synchronization point with a time stamp upon a user's first
activation of the mark button;

recording, in any order, audio data portions each corresponding to a text section;

producing a timestamp data file entry upon a user's subsequent activation of the

mark button at the completion of the recording step;

converting each recorded audio portion into an audio data file;

assembling the audio data files in a sequence corresponding to the given format of the source text data; and

generating for said assembled data files a playback control file indicating points of navigation of the source text data.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said playback control file contains links to corresponding points of navigation of said audio data files.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein a said text section correspond to any one of a chapter, page or word count of the source text data.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein a narrator reads a selected text section to form an audio portion and produces a mark of the beginning and end of the text section recorded as an audio portion to mark the points for converting to an audio data file.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of
placing the assembled audio data files and playback control file on a medium for audio playback of said audio data files and display of said playback control file.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein said playback control file contains links to corresponding points of navigation of said audio data files.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 further comprising the steps of

a user selecting a text section to be played back by selecting the section from the display; and

audio reproduction of the selected text section.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the source data text is placed on the medium and the text is displayed upon selection from the playback control file.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the audio portions are recorded by one or more narrators in any sequence and at any time or times.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the audio data is produced by at least two narrators located at the same or separate computer terminals.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the computer terminals are linked to a network of at least one of a local area network, a wide area network, an intranet, and an Internet connection.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the text data is stored in at least one of an HTML format and a XML format.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

storing the playback control data, the audio data and the text data on a portable computer-readable medium.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the portable computer-readable medium comprises at least one of a CD-ROM, a DVD-ROM, a ZIP disk, and a floppy disk.

15. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for synchronizing audio data to a plurality of text data sections of a source text, comprising:

a computer including means for recording, in any order, audio data portions each corresponding to a text section;

means for embedding synchronization points in the plurality of text data sections, wherein the synchronization points include means for selecting one of the plurality of text data sections through user interaction;

means for correlating an interactive mark button to at least one of the plurality of text sections;

means for displaying at least one of the plurality of text sections, the synchronization points, and the mark button on a display;

means for associating the synchronization point with a time stamp upon a user's first activation of the mark button;

means for producing a timestamp data file entry upon the user's subsequent activation of the mark button;

means for converting each recorded audio portion into an audio data file;

means for assembling the audio data files in a sequence corresponding to the given format of the source text data; and

means for generating for said assembled data files a playback control file indicating points of navigation of the source text data.

16. (Original) Apparatus as in claim 15 wherein said playback control file contains links to corresponding points of navigation of said audio data files.

17. (Original) Apparatus as in claim 15 further comprising:

means for receiving a medium having recorded thereon said audio files and said playback control file;

means for displaying said playback control file; and

means for playing back in audio form the data of an audio file selected from the displayed playback control file.

18. (Original) Apparatus as in claim 17 wherein said text data sections are recorded on said medium and said display means displays the text section corresponding to the selected audio portion.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of synchronizing audio data to text data from a source, the method comprising:

segregating a source text data of a given format into a plurality of text sections;
delimiting each of the segregated text sections with a user interactive
synchronization point;
providing a user interactive mark button associated with each segregated text
section;
displaying at least one of the text sections, the delimiting synchronization point,
and the associated mark button on a display;
associating the synchronization point with a time stamp upon a user's first
activation of the mark button;
recording, in any order, audio data portions each corresponding to a text
section;
producing a timestamp data file entry upon a user's subsequent activation of the
mark button at the completion of the recording step;
converting each recorded audio portion into an audio data file;
assembling the audio data files in a sequence corresponding to the given format
of the source text data; and
after each audio data file has been assembled in the sequence corresponding to
the given format of the source text data, generating for said assembled data files a playback
control file indicating points of navigation of the source text data.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for synchronizing audio data to a plurality of
text data sections of a source text, comprising:

a computer including means for recording in any order audio data portions each corresponding to a text section;

means for embedding synchronization points in the plurality of text data sections, wherein the synchronization points include means for selecting one of the plurality of text data sections through user interaction;

means for correlating an interactive mark button to at least one of the plurality of text sections;

means for displaying at least one of the plurality of text sections, the synchronization points, and the mark button on a display;

means for associating the synchronization point with a time stamp upon a user's first activation of the mark button;

means for producing a timestamp data file entry upon the user's subsequent activation of the mark button;

means for converting each recorded audio portion into an audio data file;

means for assembling the audio data files in a sequence corresponding to the given format of the source text data; and

means for generating, after each audio data file has been assembled in the sequence corresponding to the format of the source text data, a playback control file for said assembled data files indicating points of navigation of the source text data[[],].

21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the recording step further comprises the step of editing the recorded audio data.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the editing step includes the steps of inserting, deleting, and replacing the recorded audio data.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising means for providing editing functionality, wherein the editing functionality includes insertion, deletion and replacement of the recorded audio data.

24. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the recording step further comprises the step of editing the recorded audio data.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the editing step includes the steps of inserting, deleting, and replacing the recorded audio data.

26. (New) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising means for providing editing functionality, wherein the editing functionality includes insertion, deletion and replacement of the recorded audio data.